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Message Text

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15
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SCCT-02 OPR-02 A-01 NIC-01

OMB-01 AID-20 PC-04 M-02 DRC-01 SY-04 COME-00 EB-11

LAB-06 SIL-01 /131 W
---------- 114603
O P 120541Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5868
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC PRIORITY

UNCLAS SEOUL 6022

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, KS, JA
SUBJECT: ANTI-JAPANESE DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE IN INCREASED NUMBERS

1. ANTI-JAPANESE DEMONSTRATIONS MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 12 WERE NOTABLE FOR INCREASED NUMBERS OF PERSONS INVOLVED AND FOR GROWING FREQUENCY AND VIGOR OF FORAY AGAINST POLICY BARRICADES BLOCKING VARIOUS ROUTES OF ACCESS TO JAPANESE EMBASSY. MID-MORNING RALLY ATTRACTED APPROXIMATELY 5,000 PERSONS. FOCUS OF TODAY'S ACTIONS, AS WELL AS RALLY ITSELF, CENTRED IN AREA NEAR HANKUK ILBO NEWSPAPER BUILDING, IN FRONT OF OUR EMBASSY HOUSING COMPOUND NO. II. WHILE PREVIOUS DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE CONCENTRATED IN AND OUT OF THIS AREA, THIS MORNING'S RALLY WAS FIRST TIME SUCH GROUPS HAVE MASSED IN SUCH NUMBERS. THIS IS ALSO FIRST DAY MAIN STREET HAS BEEN BLOCKED FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME.

2. DEMONSTRATORS THIS MORNING WERE AGAIN REPRESENTING LABOR RELATED GROUPS, NAMELY NATIONAL CHEMICAL WORKERS UNION, AND
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GROUPS REPRESENTING PUBLICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION WORKERS.

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DURING MORNING KIM IL SUNG WAS BURNED IN EFFIGY BUT KIMURA PAPER FIGURE WAS ALSO OBSERVED BEING DRAGGED IN STREET. AT HANKUK ILBO THREE OR FOUR MEN WERE OBSERVED SLASHING AT THEIR STOMACHS AND ONE REPORTEDLY SLICED HIS LITTLE FINGER OFF AT JOINT IN PROTEST AGAINST JAPANESE.

3. ALTHOUGH POLICE HAVE REMAINED IN CONTROL WITH JUDICIOUS USE OF TEAR GAS AND PEPPER FOG, FORAYS AGAINST POLICE BARRICADES HAVE BEEN MORE UNRULY, MORE FREQUENT AND WITH MORE SERIOUS CLASHES BETWEEN POLICE AND DEMONSTRATORS THAN IN PAST. THOUGHT OVERALL CONTROL OF GROUPS IS STILL NOTICEABLE BY PLAINCLOTHESMEN NABBING TOO VOCIFEROUS PROTESTERS FROM RANKS AND MOVING THEM OFF SCENE, MOOD OF MANY DEMONSTRATORS IS VERY AGGRESSIVE.

4. ESTIMATED 1,000 MARCHERS WERE OBSERVED HEADED TOWARD SEOUL CITY HALL IN SECOND LARGE PROTEST AND SEOUL RADIO REPORTS THAT 3,500 DEMONSTRATORS TURNED OUT IN PUSAN.
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